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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 03097 140931Z

11
ACTION INR-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /019 W
---------- 102904
P 140900Z NOV 74
FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5659
INFO /AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 5993
AMCONSUL ADANA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL IZMIR PRIORITY

S E C R E T ISTANBUL 3097

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, TU
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE SADI IRMAK

REF: STATE 250338

1. A PROMINENT ECONOMICS PROFESSOR WHO CLAIMS KNOW IRMAK WELL, TOLD ACTING CG LAST NIGHT (NOV. 13) THAT IRMAK IS KINDLY AND WELL-LINTENTIONED MAN WHO ALSO, HOWEVER, VERY IDEALISTIC AND ROMANTIC WITH TENDENCY TO HAVE "HEAD IN THE CLOUDS". SAID IRMAK WAS NOT RPT NOT EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATOR AND HE COULD NOT ENVISAGE HIM AS PRIME MINISTER. HE SPECULATED THAT IRMAK MIGHT PLAY KPRIMARILY CEREMONIAL ROLE WITH MORE FORCEFUL FIGURE BEING APPOINTED AS DEPUTY PRIMIN TO RUN DAY-TO-DAY AFFAIRS,

2. COMMENT: OUR INFORMANT IS SOBER AND BALANCED INDIVIDUAL NOT GIVEN TO TYPERBOLE OR EXAGGERATION. A NUMBER OF OTHER OBSERVERS HERE HAVE ALSO ALLUDED TO IRMAK'S "IDEALISM" WITH IMPLICATION HE SOMEWHAT NAIVE OR IMPRACTICAL. MIGHT BE WORTH BEARING IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT SAME COMMENTS WERE BEING MADE ABOUT ECEVIT BEFORE HE TOOK OFFICE. MOREOVER, AS HEAD OF CARE-TAKER GOVERNMENT, IRMAK'S MAJOR TASK PRESUMABLE WILL BE TO ACT AS MEDIATOR OR CONCILIATOR AMONG PARTIES REPRESENTED IN CABINET, RATHER THAN AS HARD-CHARGING ADMINISTRATOR. WHETHER HE HAS FLEXIBILITY AND POLITICAL SAVVY TO (A) BRING PARTIES TO AGREEMENT ON FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT, AND (B) RETAIN SUFFICIENT AGREEMENT TO BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT MINIMUM GOVERNMENTAL
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FUNCTION REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

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TAGS: PINR, TU, (IRMAK, SADI)
To: STATE
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